

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A content usage system, comprising:
an information terminal;
a content usage apparatus; and
a server apparatus operable to transmit content usage information to an the information terminal, the content usage information relating to usage of content;
the information terminal that includes comprising:
a reception unit operable to receive a purchasing unit operable to purchase the content usage information from the server apparatus;
a proxy-settlement-request transmission unit operable to transmit settlement request information to a settlement apparatus of a communications enterprise that provides communication service to the information terminal, the settlement request information indicating a request for proxy settlement for the usage information; and
an a content usage information output unit operable to output the purchased received content usage information to a the content usage apparatus that is to use the content,content; and
the content usage apparatus that includes comprising:
a content obtaining unit operable to obtain the content;
a content usage information reception unit operable to receive the content usage information from the information terminal; and
a content usage unit operable to use the content in accordance with the usage information; and
the settlement apparatus comprising:
a reception unit operable to receive the settlement request information from the information terminal;
a proxy settlement unit operable to, when proxy settlement relating to the received settlement request information is permitted, perform proxy settlement for the content usage information for a content distribution server that distributes the content; and
a settlement unit operable to, when the proxy settlement is performed, perform settlement for both the communication service and the content usage information for the

information terminal.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) An information terminal for use with a content usage apparatus, and which transfers content usage information relating to usage of content, comprising:

a reception unit operable to receive the content usage information from an external server apparatus;

an output unit operable to output the received content usage information to the content usage apparatus that is to use the content; and ~~The information terminal of Claim 2, wherein the purchasing unit includes:~~

~~a usage information reception sub-unit operable to receive the usage information from the server apparatus; and~~

~~a proxy-settlement-request transmission unit proxy settlement request sub-unit~~ operable to transmit settlement request information to a settlement apparatus of a communications enterprise that provides communication service to the information terminal, the settlement request information ~~showing-indicating~~ a request for proxy settlement for the usage information.

4. (Currently Amended) The information terminal of Claim 3, ~~wherein the purchasing unit further includes~~further comprising:

~~a not-possible notification reception sub-unit unit~~ operable to receive proxy settlement not-possible information from the settlement apparatus ~~when-indicating~~ that the settlement apparatus ~~judges has judged~~ that proxy settlement is not possible.

5. (Currently Amended) The information terminal of Claim 4, further comprising:

a storage unit that is tamper-resistant, which is a state of being unable to be read or tampered with from outside, and which is operable to store electronic money information ~~therein, therein~~; and

wherein the purchasing unit further includes:

an electronic money settlement sub-unit operable to, when the not-possible

notification reception unit receives not-possible information, perform settlement for the content usage information with use of the electronic money information stored in the storage unit, ~~in place of the processing by the proxy settlement request sub-unit.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The information terminal of ~~Claim 2~~Claim 3, further comprising:
 - a storage unit that is tamper-resistant, which is a state of being unable to be read or tampered with from outside, and is operable to store electronic money information therein, therein; and

~~wherein the purchasing unit performs an electronic money settlement unit operable to perform~~ settlement for the content usage information with use of the electronic money information stored in the storage unit.
7. (Currently Amended) The information terminal of ~~Claim 2~~Claim 3, wherein the output unit includes:
 - a permitted-apparatus storage sub-unit operable to store identification information that identifies an apparatus to which transmission of the content usage information is permitted;
 - an identification information reception sub-unit operable to receive, from the content usage apparatus, usage apparatus identification information that identifies the content usage apparatus;
 - a judgment sub-unit operable to judge whether or not the received usage apparatus identification information is stored in the permitted-apparatus storage sub-unit; and
 - an output sub-unit operable to output the content usage information to the content usage apparatus when a result of the judgment by the judgment sub-unit is affirmative.
8. (Currently Amended) The information terminal of Claim 7, wherein:
 - the output unit further ~~includes~~comprises a permission reception sub-unit operable to receive, from the content usage apparatus, a signal ~~showing~~indicating that transmission of the content usage information is permitted, and
 - the output sub-unit outputs the content usage information to the content usage apparatus when the result of the judgment by the judgment sub-unit is affirmative and the

permission reception sub-unit has received the signal.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) The information terminal of ~~Claim 9~~Claim 8, further comprising:

a storage unit that is tamper-resistant, which is a state of being unable to be read or tampered with from outside, and which is operable to store electronic money information therein,

~~wherein the purchasing unit further includes:~~

a not-possible notification reception ~~sub-unit~~unit operable to receive proxy settlement not-possible information from the settlement apparatus ~~when indicating~~ that the settlement apparatus ~~judges~~has judged that proxy settlement is not possible; and

an electronic money settlement ~~sub-unit~~unit operable to, when the not-possible notification reception ~~sub-unit~~unit receives not-possible information, perform settlement of the content usage information with use of the electronic money information stored in the storage unit, ~~in place of the processing by the proxy settlement storage unit~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The information terminal of ~~Claim 2~~Claim 3, wherein

the content usage information includes identification information of an apparatus to which transmission of the content usage information is permitted, and

the output unit further ~~includes~~comprises:

an identification information reception sub-unit operable to receive, from the content usage apparatus, usage apparatus identification information that identifies the content usage apparatus;

a judgment sub-unit operable to judge whether or not the received usage apparatus identification information matches the identification information included in the usage information; and

an output sub-unit operable to output the content usage information to the content usage apparatus when a result of the judgment by the judgment sub-unit is affirmative.

12. (Currently Amended) A control method for controlling an information terminal that transfers content usage information relating to usage of content, the control method comprising:

a purchasing-reception step of purchasing-receiving the content usage information from an external server apparatus; and

an output step of outputting the purchased-received content usage information to a usage apparatus that is to use the content, content; and

wherein the purchasing step includes:

a usage information reception sub-step of receiving the usage information from the server apparatus; and

a proxy settlement request sub-step

a transmission step of transmitting settlement request information to a settlement apparatus of a communications enterprise that provides communication service to the information terminal, the settlement request information showing indicating a request for proxy settlement for the usage information.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable portable-recording medium on which is recorded a computer program to be used in an information terminal that transfers content usage information relating to usage of content, the computer program causing the information terminal to perform a method comprising:

a purchasing-reception step of purchasing-receiving the content usage information from an external server apparatus; and

an output step of outputting the purchased-received content usage information to a usage apparatus that is to use the content, content; and

wherein the purchasing step includes:

a usage information reception sub-step of receiving the usage information from the server apparatus; and

a proxy settlement request sub-step

a transmission step of transmitting settlement request information to a settlement apparatus of a communications enterprise that provides communication service to the

information terminal, the settlement request information showing indicating a request for proxy settlement for the usage information.

15. (New) The content usage system of Claim 1, further comprising:

a registration server that stores at least one identification information piece that identifies a content distribution server with which the proxy settlement is possible, and is operable to judge whether or not the proxy settlement is possible upon receiving a request from the settlement apparatus and to transmit a result of the judgment to the settlement apparatus, wherein

the transmission unit in the information terminal is operable to transmit identification information identifying the content distribution server that distributes the content by including the identification information in the settlement request information, and

the proxy settlement unit in the settlement apparatus is operable to transmit the identification information included in the settlement request information to the registration server and to request the registration server to judge whether or not the proxy settlement relating to the settlement request information is possible.

16. (New) The content usage system of Claim 1, wherein

the reception unit in the information terminal is operable to receive the content usage information including permission identification information that identifies a content usage apparatus capable of using the usage information,

the output unit in the information terminal is operable to output a content usage information transmission request including the permission identification information included in the content usage information received by the reception unit, and transmits the content usage information to the content usage apparatus in reply to the content usage information transmission request only when permission for reception is notified by the content usage apparatus, and

the reception unit in the content usage apparatus, upon receiving the content usage information transmission request from the information terminal, is operable to check whether (i) the permission identification information included in the received content usage information transmission request matches (ii) identification information that identifies the content usage apparatus, and to notify the information terminal of the permission for reception only when (i) and (ii) match.

17. (New) The content usage system of Claim 1, wherein
the reception unit in the content usage apparatus is operable to receive an identifier of the information terminal along with usage information, and to store the received content usage information in a storage area in correspondence with the identifier, and

the content usage unit in the content usage apparatus is operable to receive the identifier again from the information terminal when using the content, judge whether or not (i) the identifier stored in the storage area matches (ii) the received identifier, and to use the content only when (i) and (ii) match.

18. (New) The content usage system of Claim 1, wherein
the content usage apparatus further comprises:

a first valid device information storage unit operable to pre-store identification information that identifies an information terminal from which the content usage apparatus is capable of receiving the usage information,

the information terminal further comprises

a second valid device information storage unit operable to pre-store identification information that identifies a usage device to which the information terminal is capable of transmitting the usage information,

the content usage information output unit in the information terminal is operable to output a content usage information transmission request including identification information of the information terminal to the usage apparatus,

the content usage information reception unit in the content usage apparatus, upon receiving the content usage information transmission request from the information terminal, is operable to judge whether or not the identification information included in the content usage information transmission request is stored in the first valid device information storage, and to transmit a content usage information reception request including identification information of the content usage apparatus to the information terminal only when the identification information included in the content usage information transmission request is stored in the first valid device information storage,

the content usage information output unit in the information terminal, upon receiving the

content usage information transmission request from the content usage apparatus, is operable to judge whether or not the identification information included in the content usage information reception request is stored in the second valid device information storage unit, and to transmit the content usage information to the content usage apparatus only when the identification information included in the content usage information reception request is stored in the second valid device information storage unit.